THE EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION IN WHICH AN EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OR PRIVILEGE IS CLAIMED ARE DEFINED AS FOLLOWS:

- 1. A method for cropping a computer generated original image on a display, comprising the steps of:
 - adjusting a user-selected movable boundary on said original image to define a cropped image within said boundary, said boundary defined by two or more points on said original image; and,
- distorting said original image in regions surrounding said points, whereby said boundary is accurately positioned for cropping.
 - 2. The method of claim 1 wherein said step of distorting further includes the steps of: creating a lens surface for one or more of said regions; and, transforming said original image by applying a distortion function defining said lens surface to said original image.
 - 3. The method of claim 2 wherein said step of creating further includes the step of displaying a graphical user interface ("GUI") over one or more of said regions for adjusting said lens surface.

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4. The method of claim 3 wherein said lens surface includes a focal region and a base region and said GUI includes: a slide bar icon for adjusting a magnification for said lens surface; a slide bar icon for adjusting a degree of scooping for said lens surface; a bounding rectangle icon with at least one handle icon for adjusting a size and a shape for said focal region; a bounding rectangle icon with at least one handle icon for adjusting a size and a shape for said base region; a move icon for adjusting a location for said lens surface on said boundary; a pickup icon for adjusting a location for said base region within said original image; and, a fold icon for adjusting a location for said focal region relative to said base region.

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- 5. The method of claim 4 wherein said adjusting is performed by moving a cursor on said display with a pointing device.
- 6. The method of claim 5 wherein said cursor is an icon.

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- 7. The method of claim 5 wherein said pointing device is a mouse.
- 8. The method of claim 1 wherein said movable boundary is a polygon.
- 10 9. A method for measuring within a computer generated original image on a display, comprising the steps of:

adjusting a user-selected movable line segment on said original image to define points on said original image for measuring between; and,

- distorting said original image in regions surrounding said points, whereby said points are accurately positioned for measuring.
- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein said step of distorting further includes the steps of: creating a lens surface for one or more of said regions; and, transforming said original image by applying a distortion function defining said lens surface to said original image.
- 11. The method of claim 10 wherein said step of creating further includes the step of displaying a graphical user interface ("GUI") over one or more of said regions for adjusting said lens surface.

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12. The method of claim 11 wherein said lens surface includes a focal region and a base region and said GUI includes: a slide bar icon for adjusting a magnification for said lens surface; a slide bar icon for adjusting a degree of scooping for said lens surface; a bounding rectangle icon with at least one handle icon for adjusting a size and a shape for said focal region; a bounding rectangle icon with at least one handle icon for adjusting a size and a shape for said base region; a move icon for adjusting a location for said lens surface on said boundary; a pickup

icon for adjusting a location for said base region within said original image; and, a fold icon for adjusting a location for said focal region relative to said base region.

- 13. The method of claim 12 wherein said adjusting is performed by moving a cursor on said display with a pointing device.
 - 14. The method of claim 13 wherein said cursor is an icon.
 - 15. The method of claim 13 wherein said pointing device is a mouse.
 - 16. The method of claim 9 wherein said line segment is a straight line.
 - 17. The method of claim 1 wherein said original image has one or more layers.
- 15 18. The method of claim 17 wherein said regions have a predetermined selection of said layers.
 - 19. The method of claim 17 wherein said cropped image has a predetermined selection of said layers.

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